

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for testing the purity of plastic melts by plasticization of the melt for example in an extruder and pressing a defined amount of the melt through a screen of predetermined size and mesh width and measuring the pressure of the melt which is built up in front of the screen, said apparatus including a testing arrangement with a flow control valve to which the plastic melt is supplied from said extruder, said flow control valve having an operating position in which the melt is directed toward a screen through which the melt is passed under pressure and a release position in which the melt is discharged, said screen being supported in a screen change system having at least two screen positions in the interior of the apparatus, a preheat position and a test position, and means for moving the screen from said preheat position to said test position while moving concurrently a used seal from the test position out of the apparatus.

2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein four screens are arranged in a row adjacent one another so as to form a slide arrangement in a lower part of said arrangement provided with said recess, said screen being movable concurrently by moving the last inserted seal.

3. An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein mechanical means are provided for moving said screens through said apparatus.

4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein means are provided for pressing a screen disposed in the test position into firm sealing engagement with the upper arrangement part.

5. An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said means for pressing a screen into engagement with the arrangement part comprises a threaded nozzle housing which is provided with a lever for tightening the nozzle housing against the screen.

6. An apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the testing apparatus is so arranged that the screens are disposed in said recess in the lower arrangement part in a horizontal position.

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes a melt-pump arranged downstream of the extruder and supplying a constant volume flow.

8. An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein mechanical means are provided:

- for pivoting the melt valves
- for moving the nozzle housing and
- for pushing said screens through said apparatus.

9. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus includes heating means and heat sensors for controlling the apparatus temperature.